

MAY ASK CONGRESS TO PROBE METHODS

So-Called "Inner Workings" of Excise Board Subject of Criticism.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE TO HEAD NEW MOVEMENT

Will Join East Washington Citizens Also in Campaign to Drive Saloon From Capitol Hill.

Congressional investigation of the so-called "inner workings" of the excise board will be sought by the Anti-Saloon League and the East Washington Citizens Association, if tentative plans adopted last night by the directors of these organizations are carried into effect.

That certain members of Congress already have stated that they would vote for such an investigation in the event evidence should be presented to show that the excise board had not fairly administered the District's liquor law, was the statement today of Matthew E. O'Brien, chairman of the board of directors of the East Washington organization.

Committee to Collect Evidence.

The board last night appointed a committee to collect such evidence, which will be presented to Congress shortly after it convenes in December.

Under the auspices of this organization a mass meeting of East Washington citizens will be held in the near future to discuss the excise board. It is proposed to introduce in Congress a bill making the fifth and ninth police precincts "dry" zones.

In preparing this bill and urging its passage by Congress, the association will ask the assistance of the American Citizens Association.

The Anti-Saloon League, according to present plans, will take the interest of the entire District in a campaign similar to that which the East Washington Citizens Association expects to launch for the betterment of conditions on Capitol Hill.

Full Power With Committee.

Looking toward possible court and congressional action, trustees of the local branch of the league met last night at the Y. M. C. A. building, and after listening to a report by Attorney A. E. Shoemaker on the findings of the excise board, decided to give the executive committee full power to take whatever action it deems advisable.

While the exact course to be pursued will not be determined until later, officials of the league today stated that Congress, in all probability, will be requested to inquire into the work of the excise board and ascertain why licenses were issued to a number of saloons which are said not to possess the best reputations.

It also is understood that the league will prepare a list of cases in which the board is said to have violated the law. This data probably will be presented to Congress at the same time information of a similar character is submitted by the East Washington association.

Many After Three Licenses.

Cotter T. Bride was the only member of the excise board to visit offices at the District building today. Robert C. Smith and Henry S. Baker, the other two members, being out of the city.

It may be several days before the board reaches a decision as to whether or not it will grant three additional liquor licenses in order to bring the number of saloons in the District up to 200, the maximum number allowed by law. More than twenty requests for permission to file applications have been made to Excise Inspector Hibbs, and will be turned over to the board at its next meeting.

ASKS FOR CALL LOAN RATES.

Controller Williams Seeks Information From New York Banks.

Controller Williams has telegraphed to all national banks in New York city for information on interest rates on call loans. His message was as follows:

"Please telegraph this office the highest rate of interest charged by you during the past week on call loans secured by bond and stock collateral; also state whether you are at this time charging more than 6 per cent on any such call loans."

If you are charging in excess of 6 per cent on call loans, please advise when you may be reasonably expected to reduce the rate of interest to 6 per cent, and also explain what special conditions, if any, in your judgment, warrant you in charging on such loans more than the 6 per cent rate which, it is understood, is now being offered to so many of the leading as well as the smaller banks in New York city."

IS EXPECTED TO ACCEPT.

Netherlands Diplomat Named as Member of Peace Commission.

A London, minister of foreign affairs of the Netherlands, and former minister here from this country, has been accepted by the United States and Great Britain and asked to be a member of the peace commission provided for under the Bryan peace treaty recently ratified by both countries. It is believed here that he will accept.

There will be five members, Senator Stone being one of the two Americans already named. He and the one chosen by the Dutch government will select two others, one from each country, while the fifth place, which must go to an outsider, has been offered to Mr. London.

OPERA SINGERS ARRIVE.

Metropolitan Company Stars Reach Boston From Europe.

BOSTON, November 3.—Twenty principals and seventy-five members of the chorus of the Metropolitan Opera Company arrived from the European tour by way of Naples on the steamer Canopic last night. High-salaried singers, used to traveling in luxury, told of seemingly endless journeys in third-class railroad cars, freight cars, farmers' carts and safes in their efforts to escape from the troubled area.

Among the passengers were Enrico Caruso, Emmy Destinn, Miss Geraldine Farrar, Director Giulio Gatti-Casazza, Conductor Arturo Toscanini, Giorgio Polaseco, Miss L. Rini and Frida Hempel.

TOBACCO TAX NOW ON.

War Emergency Fees May Be Paid Any Time This Month.

War taxes on tobacco dealers and manufacturers imposed by the new emergency revenue bill have gone into effect. The taxes may be paid at any time this month, but the government stamps will not be ready for issue for the next two weeks.

A receipt of sales is available through the ordinary internal revenue tax. Taxes on wines and beer become effective immediately upon the enactment of the revenue bill. The stamp taxes on documents will go into effect December 1.

30th Infantry to Relieve 5th.

The 30th Infantry, stationed at the Presidio at San Francisco, has been ordered to West Point, N. Y., to relieve the 5th Infantry, which has been ordered to the Canal Zone as part of the permanent garrison. It is not settled what regiment will replace the 5th Infantry at San Francisco.

Sowing the Plowed Field

It is an easy job to sow the plowed field and wait for the harvest.

When the National Manufacturer advertises his product in The Star he is plowing the field for every retailer in this city who carries his goods.

He is creating tangible customers.

It is up to the retailer to sow and reap by backing up the advertiser's goods.

Sow the Goods.

Get ready to cash in on the manufacturer in newspaper advertising. Do it now.

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While the United States government asserted the right to take "contraband" persons from a neutral ship in the famous Mason and Slidell case in 1861, the prisoners were afterward released on the ground that Capt. Wilkes of the U. S. S. San Jacinto had acted without direct authorization from his government, which felt that the right to make prisoners in this fashion was too delicate to be exercised by a naval officer even where no courts were available.

By releasing the Standard Oil tank steamer Platina yesterday the British government conceded the right of American vessels laden with illuminating oil to deliver their cargoes at Danish ports.

The United States government has consistently declined to recognize an authority on the part of the British government to detain such cargoes with or without an embargo, but as long as there are no further seizures there will be no ground for pushing the protest.

A suggestion from British sources that American vessels seeking to enter the North sea would save time and trouble by voluntarily submitting to a search party to have their cargoes viced by the British authorities has not met with the approval of the State Department, probably because of a desire to

avoid recognizing any British authority over the movement of these ships.

Dominican Plea for Aid.

Appeal for aid for the tobacco interests of the Dominican Republic has been made to the State Department by Dr. Soler, the Dominican minister. He said there was fear that the entire crop, the principal product of the northern part of the island, might be lost, as it had been sold in advance and was to have gone to Hamburg, Germany. No ships can be found to carry it, as it always had been sent in German bottoms.

The financial stringency already is being felt, the minister explained, and the tobacco cannot be kept long without spoiling.

An effort will be made to secure American or other neutral vessels to handle the crop.

Chilean Neutrality.

In answer to a charge by the Santiago, Chile, correspondent of the London Times that German cruisers in the Pacific receive coal and provisions from Chilean ports, Senator Suarez, Chilean minister here, announced the receipt of a cable from his government saying it was observing the strictest possible neutrality.

The British ambassador here recently brought to the attention of the Chilean minister, it was learned, a reported irregularity in the issuance of Chilean passports to several passengers who were bound for Europe on the Oscar II. The minister promptly cabled his government and was informed that the utmost neutrality was being enforced.

TO HEAD NAVY YARD HERE.

Capt. E. W. Eberly Will Be the New Commandant.

Capt. E. W. Eberly has been ordered to this city for duty as commandant of the Washington navy yard and gun foundry, as the relief of Capt. Hilary P. Jones, who has been ordered to the Naval War College at Newport in preparation for a tour of sea duty. Capt. Eberly is now in command of the cruiser Washington cruising in the West Indies.

Commander E. L. Beach, who will become a captain in December, will relieve Capt. Eberly of command of the Washington, which will become the flagship of the cruiser squadron under Rear Admiral Caperton.

Chinese River Flood Spreading.

Officials dispatches received from the American legation at Peking reported that the flood in the Hual river district in China was spreading and that a million people were affected by it. No details were given.

Little Pictures of Big Furniture Bargains

Dining Table and Four Chairs 50c A Week \$16.75

The extension table is made of solid oak, golden back, with saddle wood seat, very comfortable.

For this sturdy Solid oak Hocker, back, with saddle wood seat, very comfortable.

oak finish; pedestal base; plain feet; match have seats of imperial leather.

For this White Enamel Medicine Cabinet, equipped with three glass shelves and mirror door.

This Chair. Of solid oak, with imperial leather seat.

Shirt Waist Box \$1.49

Large size, with hinged lid; nicely finished interior; covers with tan, rice matting; brass handles.

Gas Range \$7.85

2-burner style, with oven.

2c a Week.

Solid Oak Buffet \$13.65

50c a Week.

A Well Constructed, Newly Finished Golden Oak Buffet, with cupboard, large and small drawers and mirror back.

Felt Top

Folding Card Table (Like Picture) \$1.29

Five pieces, just like the picture. Mahogany-veneer frames, with seats covered in green velvet.

There's a Big Floor Covering Department Here and a Big New Stock Too

\$8.75 Wool and Fiber Room Size Rugs \$5.85

Made of a combination of wool and fiber, in medallion and oriental designs; their color is warranted not to fade. 9x12 feet Room size. These handsome rugs are bound to appeal to your sense of what is durable and economical.

Room Size Velvet Rugs \$12.85

Size 9x12 feet, very rich and lustrous. The assortment of colors and designs is unusually attractive.

\$1.00 Inlaid Linoleum, 69c Square Yard

Colors go through to the back and are warranted to wear indefinitely. Cut from full rolls, 2 yards wide.

15c a Week Pays for a Columbia Grafonola

It is ready for your home, as every home demands the possession of this kind of entertainment.

The Model Illustrated Is the Mahogany "Eclipse" \$25.00.

50c a Week. Ten Days' Free Trial

Hecht & Co. is noted for best service giving.

Washington Home of McDougall Kitchen Cabinets

Washington Home of Gunn Sectional Bookcases

Seventh Street

BARON BAKHMETEFF UNHURT.

Russian Ambassador Suffers No Ill Effects From Auto Accident.

Baron George Bakhmeteff, the Russian ambassador to the United States, was suffering no ill effects today from his part in a taxicab collision in Baltimore yesterday while on his way to the Pimlico races.

He was up early, hurrying through a great pile of correspondence, hoping to get through in time to make his postponed visit to the races this afternoon.

Baron Bakhmeteff was passing Linden avenue and Lantvale street, Baltimore, in a taxicab when a touring car collided with his taxicab. The automobile was owned and driven by Nathan J. Haas, a cattle dealer, living at the Altamont Hotel. Both cars were damaged. The side of the automobile was stayed in, and the fender and mud-guard of the taxicab were badly broken. Ambassador Bakhmeteff and his companion alighted from the taxicab, which was disabled, and went to the office of a physician.

CONSIDERING FREIGHT RATES.

Decision of I. C. C. on Application for Advances Expected Shortly.

Formal consideration now is being given in conference by the members of the interstate commerce commission to the application of the eastern railroads for advanced freight rates. A decision is expected within two weeks or a month. It is not expected to be a long decision, and in all events to be supplemental to that of August 1 last, which permitted some increases and denied others.

Besides the rate case the commission has before it some other questions which cannot be delayed. Under the law its annual report must be in the hands of the public printer by November 15. It is a completely new and requires considerable attention.

HARDING IS CONFIDENT OF COTTON LOAN PLAN

Reserve Board Member to Appeal Direct to Boston and New England Bankers.

Direct appeal for subscriptions to the proposed \$125,000,000 cotton loan will be made to Boston and New England bankers by W. P. G. Harding, member of the federal reserve board, in active charge of the fund. Mr. Harding and Gov. Hamlin of the board are in Boston